

CALL FOR STRATEGIC PROJECT PROPOSALS

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITY SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME Barbados

Background

The **Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP)** provides to civil society organizations (including national NGOs, community-based organizations, and indigenous peoples organisations) in 126 countries. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) which include Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are invited to apply for grants to the Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP) based in Barbados. All projects should fit within the GEF Focal Areas of Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation, Protection of International Waters, Prevention of Land Degradation, and Persistent Organic Pollutants. Projects should also have viable alternative livelihood components. All projects should contribute to environmental sustainability; alleviate poverty; and build capacity in communities.

I. Objectives:

The purpose of the portfolio of OP5 Strategic Projects (SPs) is to enable eligible national stakeholders in Barbados to carry out the following:

- ✓ Create greater impact and closer links between local efforts and global environmental benefits (GEBs) by supporting more extensive geographical coverage and/or thematic consolidation for policy improvement in mature SGP country programmes;
- ✓ Make effective use of the built up capacity of local NGOs, CBOs and communities for replication of successful technologies and approaches;
- ✓ Improve the capacity of the SGP and its partners to leverage larger funds from potential partners and donors;
- ✓ Strengthen the sustainability and replicability of SGP projects;
- ✓ Assist SIDS and landlocked LDCs to benefit from specialized expertise and/or exchanges which is not available in the SGP programme country;
- ✓ Pilot innovative market mechanisms and financial instruments (i.e. such as Payments for Ecosystem Services, PES; environmentally friendly loans; revolving funds; and/or sustainable financing for clean energy technologies);
- ✓ Accumulate national and global experience in the development and implementation of projects of larger coverage enabling SGP to link more effectively with the MSP and FSP modalities of the GEF, as well as that of other donors and governments

- ✓ Strategically position civil society participation and leadership in new and innovative policies and programmes with non-GEF funding (i.e. wide implementation of community-based adaptation (CBA), ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA), community-based REDD+, sustainable energy for all (SE4ALL), strengthening direct access to funding mechanisms such as the Adaptation Fund and the Green Climate Fund)

Strategic Project proposals should address the priorities identified in the Barbados Country Programme Strategy (CPS) (2011 – 2014), impact multiple communities and involve multiple CSOs or NGOs. The CPS can be viewed or downloaded from the following websites: <http://sgp.boecs.org> or <http://www.bb.undp.org>.

Funding: We offer funding at two levels as follows:

- *Planning Grants:* Planning Grants are meant to help applicants initiate a participatory planning process, undertake research, assess their capacity and/or hire consultants to help them define a project and prepare a proposal to access a Full Grant. These grants are up to a maximum of US\$5,000 but most awards usually average US\$2,000. It is only in exceptional circumstances that a planning grant will be awarded for US\$5,000. The exceptions are when a significant amount of research is needed prior to defining and developing a project proposal; and where business plans are required.
- *Full Strategic Grants:* These grants are given for project implementation and can be for a maximum of US\$150,000.
- *Total Grant for any project (i.e. Planning and Full Grant) = US\$150,000*

Project Approval Process: In order to ensure a swift process we are recommending the following:

- Complete and submit a CONCEPT FORM to the GEF SGP National Coordinator (NC) located in Barbados. A response should be received within 5 working days.
- If your project meets GEF guidelines we may first recommend a Planning Grant. At this time however you may wish to skip this stage and apply for a Full Grant.
- If you apply for a Planning Grant, we expect the Full Grant project proposal to be submitted within 3 months, unless exceptional circumstances arise. Planning Grants are approved within 10 working days.
- During the preparation of a project proposal we are happy to provide feedback, usually within 5 working days.
- Members of the Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) assigned to your application will review your proposal and forward their decision to the National Steering Committee (NSC) for action.
- Experts on our NSC will check the proposal to ensure that it conforms to GEF criteria.
- Project proposals that meet the criteria are usually approved within 4 to 6 weeks.

We accept Strategic Project Concepts, Planning Grant and Full Grant Applications at any time during our fiscal year which runs from July to June.

All concept, planning grant, and project proposal forms are available on our website: <http://sgp.boecs.org>

Send proposals and all requests for information to the

The National Coordinator

GEF SGP Barbados

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations House, Marine Gardens,

Hastings, Christ Church

Barbados

Tel: (246) 467-6011 or 6011 Fax: (246) 429-2448

Email: david.bynoe@undp.org